

The Three C's: Convene, Connect and Collaborate



Massachusetts Department of Public Health Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program

*Sarah Stone, Director
EHDI Meeting
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Department of Public Health

- Public health agency
- Broad mandate
- Regulatory authority

Role of Public Health in EHDI

- Neutral convener
- Connections to vital statistics and early intervention
- Hospital licensure
- Licensing agency for professionals
- Hearing screening is a true public health initiative

The Massachusetts Experience

- Advisory Committee mandated by law
 - Prescribed voting members
 - Open to public
 - Required to follow open meeting law
 - Approve changes to guidelines, major policy changes

The Massachusetts Experience

- Diagnostic Centers
 - Centers must be approved by DPH to test babies from hearing screening programs
 - Guidelines require an audiologist in a leadership capacity to attend meetings three times a year
 - Professional development, networking
 - Data sharing, emphasis on reporting

The Massachusetts Experience

- Stakeholder Group
 - Modeled after meetings here at EHDI
 - Meet twice a year outside of EHDI, move meetings around the state
 - Attendees not mandated, true representation from many constituencies
 - Informational

The Massachusetts Experience

- Learning Community
 - Invited membership
 - Overlap with other groups
 - Project based

The Massachusetts Experience

- Early Intervention Specialty Service Providers
 - What about us?
 - Meetings led by EI
 - UNHS participates

The Massachusetts Experience

- MA Congenital CMV Coalition
 - CMV conference in Vermont
 - Connecting stakeholders
 - Meet twice a year in person, subcommittees meet more frequently
 - Other DPH representation including infectious disease, birth defects, EI

The Massachusetts Experience

- Family event/activity planners
 - Sharing of schedule
 - Future planning efforts
 - Lessons learned

How did we get here?



Relationship Building

- Show up
- What can you offer?
- Cross-promotion
- Collaborative efforts
- Be responsive
- Be approachable

Thank you!

Contact:

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<https://www.facebook.com/MassNewbornHearingScreening/>

<https://www.mass.gov/universal-newborn-hearing-screening-program>